

Graduation Rate Task Force Project

February 18, 2014

GRTF Summary Document

The GRTF summary document will distill and describe the work of the Graduation Rate Task Force and provide a list of critical next steps and recommendations for a variety of audiences.

A Proposed Outline

I. Introduction

A. Description of the problem

1. Graduation rates and trends
 - a. National graduation rates and trends
 - b. Arizona graduation rates and trends
2. Falling graduation rates and the “new economy”
 - a. Educational requirements in the new economy
 - b. Impact of drop-outs on the national economy
 - c. Impact of drop-outs on the Arizona economy
 - d. Impact of dropping out on the individual student
3. Visuals: appropriate graphs and charts

A Proposed Outline

II. Arizona's Response

A. Arizona Ready and the Graduation Rate Task Force

1. Role of Arizona Ready in State Educational Reform
 - a. Origin and purpose of Arizona Ready
 - b. Scope of work
2. Role of the Graduation Rate Task Force (GRTF)
 - a. Origin and purpose of the GRTF
 - b. Scope of work: The seven GRTF White Papers
3. Visuals: graphic of the seven white paper topics

A Proposed Outline

III. The GRTF Seven Areas of Focus

A. Gap Analysis for Each of the Seven Areas

1. “What Should Be”

- a. Current research and best practices
- b. Examples of where it is working nationwide

2. “What Is”

- a. Current situation in Arizona public education
- b. Examples of where best practices are being implemented

3. “What needs to be done”

- a. Critical actions to be taken to close gap between “what is” and “what should be”

4. Visuals: graphs/charts, pull-quotes, appropriate photos

A Proposed Outline

IV. The “Big Seven” Viewed as a Comprehensive System of Services, Resources and Interventions

A. A hypothetical student’s educational journey

1. Pre-school and Early Primary Education

- a. Quality early childhood programs/transition to primary grades
- b. Comprehensive statewide student data system
- c. Quality afterschool programs

A Proposed Outline

IV. The GRTF Recommendations Viewed as a System of Services, Resources and Interventions

A. A hypothetical student's educational journey (cont.)

2. Mid-to-Late Primary Grades

- a. Comprehensive statewide student data system
- b. Quality afterschool programs
- c. Education/career links

A Proposed Outline

IV. The GRTF Recommendations Viewed as a System of Services, Resources and Interventions

A. A hypothetical student's educational journey (cont.)

3. The Middle Grades

- a. Early warning data system
- b. Quality afterschool programs
- c. Begin ECAP development
- d. Education/career links

A Proposed Outline

IV. The GRTF Recommendations Viewed as a System of Services, Resources and Interventions

A. A hypothetical student's educational journey (cont.)

4. High School and Beyond

- a. ECAP
- b. Career pathways/business community involvement
- c. CTE/Relevance
- d. Early warning data system
- e. Quality afterschool programs
- f. Alternate means for credit award

A Proposed Outline

IV. The GRTF Recommendations Viewed as a System of Services, Resources and Interventions

A. A hypothetical student's educational journey (cont.)

5. Visuals

- a. A single graphic that represents the system described above
- b. Possible themes: “Path to Success”, “Ladder to Success”
- c. Your ideas?

Questions or Comments?

Thank you for your time.